

# Scrapstores



## What is a Scrapstore?

Scrapstores are a type of organisation throughout the UK that take re-usable, safe, clean waste products and re-distribute them to the wider community. Most Scrapstores operate as a charity or community interest company, with the purpose of educating the local community, business groups and other organisations about the value of recycling waste. Robbie from [Hull ScrapStore](#) has provided us with some helpful information to help you get the best out of your local Scrapstore.

## Who can use a Scrapstore?

Everyone can! Scrapstores nationwide are used by:

craft groups, nurseries, residential care homes, artists, model builders, re-enactors, youth groups, theatres, festival organisers, families, play groups, preschool groups, after school clubs, parent/toddler groups, community centres, schools, colleges and voluntary organisations.

Whether you're looking for materials to inspire a Craft Club activity or are searching for specific low-cost materials in large quantities, Scrapstores are a great resource. They're also handy places to advertise for new members or meet local makers to lead workshops.



## What materials might I find?

Scrapstores operate by distributing surplus or waste materials from local businesses, so it varies from area to area. That means you can find anything from fabric offcuts, to tennis balls, to sheets of paper and cardboard rolls. Many high-end companies donate materials, for example fabrics and leather offcuts- so it's worth researching which local businesses are donating materials if you're after something specific.

## How much does it cost?

Several Scrapstores charge a yearly subscription fee to be able to access the discounted materials. This is normally around £10 per year.

However, some Scrapstores are completely free to use. Hull Scrapstore got rid of their subscription fees in 2016, and the scheme saw a marked increase in footfall and participation. One year on, it is now becoming one of the most desirable and accessible crafting centres in the area.

You can see how much it costs to use your local Scrapstore on the UK Scrapstores website: [www.scrapstoresuk.org](http://www.scrapstoresuk.org)

## What else do Scrapstores offer?

- Many Scrapstores have discounted art supplies shops on site
- Creative art and play workshops for children, young people and families in community settings as well as in schools, open events and onsite at Scrapstores
- An opportunity to work alongside experienced creative Scrapstore Workshop artists with appropriate language, terminology and skills honed for creative activity
- Rooms or space to hire for external workshops or groups
- Many Scrapstores offer mobile play-pods, which are large containers filled with objects and materials to encourage open-ended play



## Sounds great! Where's my local one?

There's a comprehensive list of locations on the UK Scrapstores website which is listed at the end of this resource, and most Scrapstores have a dedicated website which lists opening times, pricing structures and upcoming events and workshops.

## Can I set up my own ScrapStore?

If you're not local to any of the Scrapstores listed and you'd like to set up your own centre, there are some great resources online. This article from the UK Scrapstores website is a fantastic starting point and outlines all the aspects to consider before you start:

[www.scrapstoresuk.org/resources/how-to-set-up-a-scrapstore](http://www.scrapstoresuk.org/resources/how-to-set-up-a-scrapstore)

## Useful Links:

UK Scrapstores website:

[www.scrapstoresuk.org](http://www.scrapstoresuk.org)

Upcycle that:

[www.upcyclethat.com](http://www.upcyclethat.com)

Art of Recycle:

[www.artofrecycle.org](http://www.artofrecycle.org)

Hull Scrapstore:

[www.scrapstorehull.co.uk](http://www.scrapstorehull.co.uk)

Freecycle:

[www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org)

Pinterest:

[www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com)

